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March 14, 2000

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/462,625; I.A. Filing Date: July 10, 1998
For: **Tumor Growth Inhibition- and Apoptosis-Associated Genes and Polypeptides and Methods of Use Thereof**
Inventors: Georgiev *et al.*
Our Ref: 0652.1630001/RWE/KKV

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Transmittal letter (in duplicate);
2. Information Disclosure Statement;
3. 25 sheets of Form PTO-1449 citing 83 documents;
4. A copy of 8 documents cited thereon (AS10, AT12, AS13, AR23, AR24, AO1, AP1, and AL2); and
5. One return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are

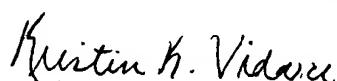
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
March 14, 2000
Page 2

necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Kristin K. Vidovich
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 41,448

KKV/neh
Enclosures

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PCT/PTO 14 MAR 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GEORGIEV *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/462,625

International Filing Date: July 10, 1998

For: **Tumor Growth Inhibition- and
Apoptosis-Associated Genes and
Polypeptides and Methods of Use Thereof**

Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 0652.1630001/RWE/KKV

Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Copies of the documents cited by or submitted to the Office in Application No. 08/893,764, filed July 11, 1997, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120, are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 08/893,764, filed July 11, 1997. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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Date: March 14, 2000

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